Message

From: "Shoren Brown, Trout Unlimited" ["Shoren Brown, Trout Unlimited" <sbrown@tu.org>]

Sent: 2/26/2013 5:48:07 PM

To: Bob Perciasepe/DC/USEPA/US@EPA

Subject: Bristol Bay in the News February 26, 2013

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Trout Unlimited released a statement last week expressing its disappointment regarding a letter from Sen. David Vitter asking that the Bristol Bay Watershed Assessment be reversed. The Assessment represents nearly three years of work and analysis, and makes several undisputed conclusions, including that Bristol Bay hosts the world's largest sockeye salmon run and that digging a massive open-pit mine in its watershed would harm salmon and spawning areas. "We suggest that the Senator engage in some deep study of Bristol Bay – as the EPA has done – and meet with its stakeholder groups before he tries to weigh in on a crucial issue to Alaskans and Bristol Bay residents and derail important work recognizing the importance of the greatest sockeye salmon fishery in the world," said Shoren Brown, Bristol Bay Campaign Director for Trout Unlimited. And, in Northern Nevada, a professor authored an opinion piece in the Nevada Appeal about Pebble, saying that it will be three times as large as Utah's Kennecott copper mine and jeopardize Bristol Bay's unique salmon factory. Ursula Carlson says this is a situation where fishing and mining can't safely coexist. She writes: "Keeping the open pit dry, in turn, involves extensive and continual "de-watering" or pumping of the streams, which depletes the water the spawning salmon need. Even if the water is returned to the streams as discharge, the chance of it being identical to the pristine original water the salmon know by scent as the location where each was spawned is slim, if not nonexistent."For more information, visit www.savebristolbay.orgShoren BrownBristol Bay Campaign Director Tim BristolTrout Unlimited Alaska DirectorStatement on Sen. David Vitter's letter asking to "reverse" the Bristol Bay Watershed Assessment, Feb. 23, 2013Save Bristol BayTrout Unlimited and a broad coalition of other sportsmen and conservation groups take great issue with a letter from Sen. David Vitter of Louisiana pushing the EPA to "reverse" its Bristol Bay Watershed Assessment ... Click here to read more Fresh Ideas: Open-pit mine in Alaska could ruin a pristine regionNevada Appeal Ursula CarlsonWe tend to think that in a trade-off there are positives that outweigh the negatives, but as many colloquial expressions attest, some things don't lend themselves to a trade-off. The Chinese say you can't have a horse that runs fast yet consumes no food; the Danish say you can't both blow and have flour in your mouth ... Click here to read moreAlaska bill would undo wilderness restrictions in state parkAnchorage Daily NewsRichard MauerA bill moving through the Legislature would eliminate wilderness restrictions in a portion of a state park in the Bristol Bay region so a utility can study a hydroelectric project on a lake where such development now is banned ... Click here to read

Southwest Alaska needed jobs long before Pebble mine proposalAlaska DispatchNels Anderson Jr. The opinion piece by Melvin Andrew, "My Personal Pebble," expresses clearly what is driving people toward Pebble. The regional corporations and village corporations are not providing regional economic opportunities for people to work, feed their families, and deliver economic security ... Click here to read more

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